

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY AUGUST 19, 2015

CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE—2015–16 REGULAR SESSION

## Assembly Concurrent Resolution

**No. 97**

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**Introduced by Assembly Member Bonilla**  
**(Coauthor: Assembly Member Rodriguez)**  
(Coauthors: Senators Hernandez and Leyva)

July 16, 2015

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Assembly Concurrent Resolution No. 97—Relative to medicine.

### LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL’S DIGEST

ACR 97, as amended, Bonilla. Medical training: osteopathic students.

This measure would urge both private and public medical training institutions in the state to provide equal access to osteopathic and allopathic students to apply to training programs, would urge osteopathic medical schools, allopathic medical schools, and their training institutions to build on current successes of working toward greater collaboration and coordination of education and training for California’s future physicians, and would urge efforts by training institutions and allopathic and osteopathic medical schools to work toward greater acceptance and integration of osteopathic and allopathic students.

Fiscal committee: no.

- 1 WHEREAS, California has a significant shortage and inequitable
- 2 distribution of physicians throughout the state due to the aging
- 3 population, current population growth, and the increasing number
- 4 of insured; and
- 5 WHEREAS, According to a study by the Robert Graham Center
- 6 in 2013, it was estimated that the state would need 8,243 more

1 primary care physicians by ~~2030~~— 2030, a 32 percent increase of  
2 its current workforce; and

3 *WHEREAS, The state's ability to meet the need for primary care*  
4 *osteopathic physicians (DOs) and allopathic physicians is directly*  
5 *affected by the number of medical residency slots available in*  
6 *physician training programs across the state, and the current*  
7 *amount of graduate medical education slots must be increased*  
8 *substantially; and*

9 ~~WHEREAS, Osteopathic physicians DOs~~ are one of the fastest  
10 growing segments of health care professionals in the United States.  
11 By 2016, more than 100,000 ~~osteopathic physicians (DOs)~~ DOs  
12 are expected to be in active medical practice; and

13 *WHEREAS, Approximately 60 percent of practicing DOs*  
14 *specialize in primary care fields such as family medicine, internal*  
15 *medicine, and ~~pediatrics~~ *pediatrics*, and many DOs fill a critical*  
16 *need by practicing in rural and other medically underserved areas;*  
17 *and*

18 ~~WHEREAS, Osteopathic~~ *Beginning in 2020, osteopathic (DO)*  
19 *and allopathic (MD) residency programs will soon be overseen by*  
20 *a single unified ~~graduate medical education~~ accrediting body; and*

21 *WHEREAS, Quality medical training for DO and MD students*  
22 *is critical to their success as fully trained and licensed physicians;*  
23 *and*

24 *WHEREAS, Many public and private institutions have*  
25 ~~historically~~ *provided equal access to the application process for*  
26 *their medical training programs by all students and physicians,*  
27 *and have trained exemplary DO and MD students by choosing*  
28 *those candidates who best suit their programs; and*

29 *WHEREAS, Section 2064.2 of the Business and Professions*  
30 *Code states that no medical school or clinical training program*  
31 *shall deny access to elective clerkships or preceptorships in any*  
32 *medical school or clinical training program in this state solely on*  
33 *the basis that a student is enrolled in an ~~osteopathic~~ DO medical*  
34 *school; and*

35 *WHEREAS, Section 2453 of the Business and Professions Code*  
36 *states that it is the policy of the state that holders of MD degrees*  
37 *and DO degrees shall be accorded equal professional status and*  
38 *privileges as licensed physicians and surgeons; now, therefore, be*  
39 *it*

1     *Resolved by the Assembly of the State of California, the Senate*  
2 *thereof concurring*, That the Legislature urges both private and  
3 public medical training institutions in the state to provide equal  
4 access to DO and MD students to apply to training programs while  
5 still maintaining the integrity and competitiveness of their  
6 application process and the need to first serve enrolled students;  
7 and be it further

8     *Resolved*, That the Legislature urges ~~osteopathic DO~~ medical  
9 schools, ~~allopathic MD~~ medical schools, and their training  
10 institutions to build on current successes of working toward greater  
11 collaboration and coordination of education and training for  
12 California's future physicians; and be it further

13     *Resolved*, That the Legislature urges efforts by training  
14 institutions and ~~allopathic MD and osteopathic DO~~ medical schools  
15 to work toward greater acceptance and integration of DO and MD  
16 students in their medical training programs; and be it further

17     *Resolved*, That the Chief Clerk of the Assembly transmit copies  
18 of this resolution to the author for appropriate distribution.